# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

JOHN K. KRUEGER AND

KRUEGER FAMILY FUNERAL HOME,

RESPONDENTS.

ORDER 0001425

#### Division of Enforcement Case No. 11 FDR 003

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

John K. Krueger 101 N. 2nd St. Tomahawk, WI 54487

Krueger Family Funeral Home 101 N. 2nd St. Tomahawk, WI 54487

Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Enforcement Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent John K. Krueger (dob 12/01/1956) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a Funeral Director, having license number 77-4297, first issued on 01/04/1978 and current through 12/14/2013. Mr. Krueger's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 101 N. 2nd St., Tomahawk, WI 54487.

- 2. Respondent Krueger Family Funeral Home is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a Funeral Establishment, having license number 78-1421, first issued on 07/01/1972 and current through 05/31/2013. Krueger Family Funeral Home's most recent address on file with the Department is 101 N. 2nd St., Tomahawk, WI 54487.
- 3. On January 18, 2011, the Department received a self-report from Respondents stating that they had employed an unlicensed funeral director. On February 3, 2011, the Department received an anonymous complaint alleging, in part, that an unlicensed individual worked as a funeral director at Krueger Family Funeral Home.
- 4. The Department's investigation revealed that an unlicensed individual worked at Respondent Krueger Family Funeral Home as a funeral director from September 2010 until January 2011.
- 5. Respondents were misled by the unlicensed individual into believing the unlicensed individual was a licensed funeral director.
- 6. Respondents failed to obtain a copy of the unlicensed individual's funeral director license for posting.
- 7. Respondents falsely advertised that the unlicensed individual was a funeral director on the website for Krueger Family Funeral Home.
- 8. Respondent John K. Krueger self-reported the unlicensed practice to the Department immediately following his discovery that the individual was not a licensed funeral director.
- 9. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent John K. Krueger was the funeral director in charge of Krueger Family Funeral Home.
- 10. In resolution of this matter, Respondents John K. Krueger and Krueger Family Funeral Home consent to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 445.13, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents violated Wis. Stat. § 445.12(5) by allowing an unlicensed individual to work as a funeral director.
- 3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents violated Wis. Stat. § 445.09 by failing to post the funeral director licenses of all individuals working as funeral directors.
- 4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents violated Wis. Stat. § 445.12(4) by falsely advertising on the website for Krueger Family Funeral Home.

5. As a result of the above violations, Respondents John K. Krueger and Krueger Family Funeral Home are subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stats. §§ 445.13(1) and 445.105(4).

### **ORDER**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The attached Stipulation is hereby accepted.
- 2. Respondents John K. Krueger and Krueger Family Funeral Home are hereby REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Within 90 days of the date of this Order, Respondent John K. Krueger shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$209.00.
- 4. Within 90 days of the date of this Order, Respondent Krueger Family Funeral Home shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$209.00.
- 5. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817, Fax (608) 266-2264

- 6. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondents' licenses. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondents fail to timely submit payment of the costs as ordered, Respondents' licenses (nos. 77-4297 and 78-1421) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondents have complied with payment of costs.
  - 7. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

h.,

Member of the Board

Date